
COURSE OUTLINE – PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES IN PSYCHIATRIC NURSING (BOUND014)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course reviews the source and function of boundaries in human relationships. It provides a brief overview of the role of boundaries in the history of humankind. Having created this context of the essential nature of boundaries in human relationships, the course then explores the purpose, role, and functions of boundaries in the context of psychiatric nursing practice. It provides examples of boundary issues and the potential psychological, psychosocial and ethical consequences for nurses who violate boundaries in their practice both for clients and for psychiatric nurses themselves. By studying nursing texts and literature, and applying these in case study work, the participant will demonstrate their clear understanding of how to create, work with, and sustain professional boundaries in all of their relationships. As well as clients, this includes working with colleagues in the interprofessional team and with the families of clients. The course also addresses the significance of professional boundaries for nurses in modern regulatory contexts. Furthermore, it examines the issue of professional boundaries in the realm of electronic communications.

Pre-requisites: Graduation from an entry-level nursing program.

Co-requisites: None.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe the historical context of boundaries in human relationships.
- Explain the conflict between the norms of boundaries in societal communications and relationships with those of the psychiatric nurse in the professional context.
- Demonstrate self-awareness with regard to establishing and maintaining professional boundaries in various contexts of psychiatric nursing practice.
- Apply professional boundaries to case study scenarios in psychiatric nursing.
- Discuss boundary issues in relation to electronic communications.
- Explain the role of nursing regulation in relation to professional boundaries.

Course Hours:

4 contact hours per week, for 6 weeks.

Modes of Instruction and Learning

This course is delivered through online modes of teaching and learning. This includes reading and literature search, short learning activities (LA), critiquing and providing responses to various learning activities and case scenarios.

Required Textbooks

Textbooks may be available online, in e-format or for purchase through publishers or other brokers. E.g. BookMob.ca often has nursing texts for sale at significantly reduced prices. You might also be able to borrow these texts from your local community college library – You are permitted to copy one chapter or 10% of a book for education purposes.

1. Arnold, E.C. & Underman Boggs, K. (2016). Interpersonal Relationships: Professional Communication Skills for Nurses (7th ed.) St. Louis, MO: Elsevier.
2. Haddad, A., Doherty, R., & Purtilo, R., (2019). Health Professional and Patient Interaction (9th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier.

Assessment and Evaluation

Participants are required to achieve a '**Mastery**' grade in all assessable components of the course in order to receive a certificate of completion. The specific criteria for success will vary with the type of learning activity and are indicated in each LA description. Generally, participants will be able to resubmit once when an assignment is deemed by the Consultant as not meeting some or all of the competencies. The maximum number of resubmissions allowed is two and, even then, only at the Consultant's discretion.

Learning Activities will be graded within a maximum of 14 days. We ask course participants to contact the office and provide a reminder if they have not heard from us by 10 days after submission of a LA. Exceptions to these timeframes apply under unusual circumstances, such as when a participant registers for a course and then delays starting or begins the course and is then absent for an extended period of time. Additionally, participants are expected to complete and submit LAs progressively over the duration of the course; it is not acceptable for a participant to suddenly submit multiple LAs over the course of one or two days. In any of these situations, the normal maximum of 14 days for return of the participant's work will be extended at the discretion of, and according to the needs of, the Consultant. Moreover, in the event that a participant needs to be reinstated in a course (see Attendance and Participation subsection below), return of LAs may be further delayed by any work-related travel the Consultant originally had planned in the new period.

Attendance and Participation

The deadline for completing this course is 10 weeks from the date you first log onto the course-specific site. You are expected to be working on the course and LAs on a regular basis and to indicate to the Consultant how you are progressing or if you need assistance to progress. Failure to complete this course within the deadline or to maintain regular communication for a prolonged period (one month) could result in your being withdrawn from the online learning centre. A reinstatement fee of \$100.00 may be payable should you wish to continue with the course after this time. If you repeat the same failure to maintain communication for a **second time**, you will be required to pay another reinstatement fee of \$100.00. If you repeat the same failure to maintain communication for a **third time**, or if you are absent for a period of six months without communication (even if this is your first time failing to communicate regularly), you will have to pay the entire course and administration fees over again. Decisions in this regard are at the sole discretion of JCC Inc.

Technical Issues (Reminder)

Technical problems can arise from a number of sources in online learning programs. Participants having technical difficulties should report them to JCC Inc. as soon as possible by e-mail, fax or phone. The news forums or e-mail will be used to notify participants of any known issues. Please read the news forum and check your e-mail frequently to keep aware of current conditions and issues. Participants will not be penalized for technical problems which arise from our LMS or the Server. Requests for assistance will be given priority responses.

Withdrawal & Refund Policy

In order to withdraw from continuing education at JCC Inc., all participants must provide written notice. The date upon which this written notice is received will be used to determine the amount of any potential refund based upon the following policy:

- (a) If written notice of withdrawal is received by JCC Inc. or a participant is dismissed within 4 calendar days since the participant received the introductory email¹, then JCC Inc. may retain 30% of the tuition.
- (b) If written notice of withdrawal is received by JCC Inc. or a participant is dismissed after 4 calendar days and within 12 calendar days since the participant received the introductory email¹, then JCC Inc. may retain 50% of the tuition.
- (c) If written notice of withdrawal is received by JCC Inc. or a participant is dismissed at any point after 12 calendar days since the participant received the introductory email¹, then JCC Inc. may retain 100% of the tuition.

***N.B.:** Notice must be received by e-mail to info@jcollinsconsulting.com by 4:00 p.m. (PST) on or before the days stated above.

¹ The introductory email provides the participant's username and password which grant access to the Online Learning Centre. The introductory email is considered to have been received by the participant when JCC Inc. sends it to the email address provided by the participant in the application form.

All program participants are required to read the "Site Policies" on the Online Learning Centre front page. The URL sent to you in the registration e-mail, with your username and password, will take you to this page. These documents have important policy information and assistance with assignments. You will be subject to the policies and expectations outlined in these documents, therefore, it is critical that you read them before starting your module/course.